

# THE WEEKLY PORTAGE SENTINEL.

HART & SOMERVILLE, PROPRIETORS.

THE UNION—IT MUST BE PRESERVED.

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WHOLE NUMBER 619

## Poetical.

### Amity.

BY MARY POTTER.

"Number thy lamp-lens, and tell me now,  
How many canst thou light at the stars,  
And blush not at the burning?"

Be subtle in thy friendships;  
Gather a chosen few  
Around the spirit's chalice,  
Where drops the heavenly dew;  
Let them be rich in wisdom—  
Let them be great and true,  
With a strong and holy purpose,  
Who take of the feast with you.

Be guarded in thy friendships;  
For the love you bear to those,  
Who like a living chapel,  
Your highest life enclose,  
Lest not a mere pretender  
To the jeweled chain you hold,  
Nor stain your spirit's tablet  
With a worthless gem enrolled.

A perfect gem united  
To the crown you wear,  
Reflects its blessed gleam,  
And stamps new beauty there;  
While the glare of paste and stone  
Outshines the purer rays,  
And o'er your proud tapers  
An envious mockery plays.

Be reverent in thy friendships;  
Approach with holy care  
Each sacred and guarded temple,  
And the mysteries shroud there;  
And never a word ungentle—  
Never a thought unkind,  
For the beloved and loving—  
The beautiful soul united.

Be loyal in thy friendships;  
Gather a noble few  
Around the inner altar,  
To drink of the heavenly dew;  
For out of the sphere of earth-love  
Springs the Platonic divine,  
The golden love of the angels,  
Which round the eternal entwines.

### A Laborer's Birth-day Song.

Thus far through the world have I battled my way,  
Offs shades and I've outlived my share I have seen;  
And I've seen the dawn of a new and better day,  
The first of the new year, the first of the new year.

I have seen the dawn of a new and better day,  
The first of the new year, the first of the new year;  
I have seen the dawn of a new and better day,  
The first of the new year, the first of the new year.

I have seen the dawn of a new and better day,  
The first of the new year, the first of the new year;  
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The first of the new year, the first of the new year;  
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The first of the new year, the first of the new year.

## Go Back, Rose; You're too Little to Come.

BY ELLEN LOUISE CHANDLER.

There were three of us—Kate, Annette, and myself—and we were going into the woods to hunt for strawberries. Oh! it was such a delicious day in June. The birds sang till the air was fairly vocal with their melody, and all the green trees nodded their heads in approbation. The very brooks seemed to have caught the general inspiration, and danced along through the meadows, as if keeping time to a quickstep of the fairies.

Annette Summers and I had been invited to spend the half-holiday with our school-mate, Kate Harrington. Deacon Harrington's old-fashioned, brown house fronted toward the South. Behind it stretched a broad, green meadow, famous for flowers and berries in the geography of every child in Ryefield. I used to look at Deacon Harrington's old brown house, even in those early days, when I had not a well-defined idea of artistic taste in my curly head. I know now, that it combined, to an eminent degree, the elements of the picturesque. The low roof, which sloped backward nearly to the ground, was grey with moss. Ivy crept about the windows, and over the rustic porch had twined climbing roses, along with heavy clusters of trumpet creeper.

There was a rude seat in the door-way made of the little boughs of the white birch, twisted together in fantastic fashion, and here grand mother Harrington was wont to sit, with her grey woolen knitting-work. Oh! what a treat we used to think it to spend a half holiday with Kate Harrington. "I wish I were you, Kate," exclaimed Annette, after we had spent half the long summer afternoon chasing butterflies, and arranging a vegetable baby house, with holly-hocks, for our ladies' parasols, and tea-pots manufactured of veritable poppy-pods. "I wish I were you, and then I should be happy all day long, with nothing to trouble me."

"You could, could you?" and Kate's cheek flushed, as she put away from her heavy bands of black hair—"you think so, and that's all you know about it. I have a thousand things to vex me. There's Rose, for instance. Mother expects me to be constantly taking care of her, and she's the greatest little torment you ever saw. By the way, girls, let's start after those strawberries in the woods, now she's out of sight a minute, so she won't tease us with us!"

We were just halfway across the meadow when we heard a sweet voice crying: "Please, sister Kate; Rose wants to go too."

I turned round I remember, and thought how beautiful was the little creature coming towards us. She was very unlike her sister Kate. Kate was a brunette, but the little white-robed figure tripping across the meadow, had a pale spiritual face, and long curls of golden hair falling to her tiny waist. There was a flush on her cheek and a look of eager, beseeching interest in her large, blue eyes; and she stretched her dimpled arms towards us, and kept crying in her earnestness:

"Please, girls, wait for Rose!"

A look of vexation crossed Kate's face, and she called out in a tone of extreme irritability: "Go back, Rose; you're too little to come! Go back! go back!"

Kate always had a way of being minded, and the little one put her fingers to her eyes, and silently turned toward the house. We hurried on in the direction of the woods, without giving a single glance backward. I think Kate's conscience reproached her for her selfishness, and I know my own pleasure was spoiled for the afternoon. We found plenty of strawberries red and ripe, among their beds of leaves. There were little blue-eyed blossoms, too, that kept reminding me of Rosie, and I was not sorry when the sun-set shadows lengthened, and we turned to go home.

We had gone down the hill, out of the woods, and crossed several roads of the meadow land, when Kate said in a hoarse whisper: "See there, girls, what is that white thing by the brook? Do you see it?"

We saw it, and hurried toward it. It was Rose. At first we thought she was dead. Scarcely seemed the faintest breath to steal from her parted lips, and the paleness of her heart was so weak you could scarcely feel them. She was in a kind of trance-like sleep. It was sometime before we succeeded in waking her, and then her limbs seemed chilled and stiffened by the subtle dampness of the meadow land atmosphere. She could not stand. How many times that afternoon the little darling had begged us to "make a chair" for her, with our hands, and we had answered that we couldn't stop. We made one now. She twined her dimpled arms about our necks, and held on very tight, but she didn't speak, except once, and then she only said, "Ain't I most big enough, sister Kate?"

Mrs. Harrington met us at the door with a wild look of alarm. "Good heavens, Kate!" she exclaimed; "what's the matter with Rose?" And taking her in her arms, she discovered that her clothes were almost saturated with moisture. "Kate, child, why don't you speak? Has Rose been in the water?"

"No, ma'am; but she went into the meadow, and got to sleep, and we found her there sleeping."

Oh, there were anxious hearts in Deacon Harrington's brown house that night. Very tenderly was the suffering little Rose cradled on her mother's breast, but not once did she speak coherently. Her cheeks burn-

## Letter of a Dying Wife to her Husband.

BY ELLEN LOUISE CHANDLER.

The following most touching fragment of a letter from a dying wife to her husband was found by him some months after her death, between the leaves of a religious volume, which she was very fond of perusing. The letter, which was literally dim with tear marks, was written long before the husband was aware that the grasp of a fatal disease had fastened upon the lovely form of his wife, who died at the early age of nineteen.

"When this shall reach your eye, dear George, some day when you are turning over the relics of the past, I shall have passed away forever, and the cold white stone will be keeping its lonely watch over the lips you have so often pressed, and the sod will be growing green that shall hide forever from your sight the dust of one who has once nestled close to your warm heart. For many long and sleepless nights, when all beside my thoughts were at rest, I have wrestled with the consciousness of approaching death, until at last it has forced itself upon my mind; and although to you and to others it might now seem but the nervous imaginings of a girl, yet, dear George, it is so!—Many weary hours have I passed in the endeavor to reconcile myself to leaving you whom I love so well, and this bright world of sunshine and beauty; and hard indeed it is to struggle on cheerily and alone with the conviction that I am about to leave all forever, and go down alone into the dark valley! But I know in whom I have believed, and leaning upon His arm I fear no evil. Do not blame me for keeping even all this from you. How could I subject you, of all others, to such sorrow as I feel at parting, when time will so soon make it apparent to you? I could have wished to live, if only to be at your side when your time shall come, and pillow your head upon my breast, and wipe the death damps from your brow, and usher your departing spirit into the Maker's presence, embalm in woman's holiest prayer. But it is not so to be—and I submit. Yours is the privilege of watching, through long and dreary nights, or the spirit's final flight, and of transferring my sinking heart from your breast to my Saviour's bosom! And you shall share my last thoughts; the last faint pressure of the hand, and the last feeble kiss shall be yours; and even when flesh and heart shall have failed me, my eye shall rest on your untitled by death; and my spirit shall hold one last fond communion, until gently fading from my view—the last of earth—you shall mingle with the first bright glimpses of the unending glories of that better world, where perils are unknown. Well do I know the spot, dear George, where you lay me; often have we stowed by the place, and as we watched the mellow sun-set as it glared in quivering flashes through the leaves, and burnished the grassy mounds around us with stripes of burni-bell gold, each perhaps has thought that some day of us would come alone, and whichever it might be, your name would be on the stone. But we loved the spot; and I know you will love it none the less when you see the same quiet sunlight linger and play among the grass that grows over your Mary's grave. I know you will go often alone there, when I am laid there, and my spirit will be with you then, and whisper among the waving branches, I am not lost but gone before!"

"I cannot say she's better, madam. God knows I wish I could, but Rose must die before midnight!" and the tears stood in glittering drops on the good man's cheeks.

The mother's grief was not noisy. She quietly lifted her darling from the bed, and sat down with her in her arms. Kate stood by, sobbing, as if already the brand of Cain were upon her brow.

"Please, mamma," said the little one at length, "am I big enough to go to heaven?" "Yes; darling," was the tearful answer, "Jesus loves little children."

"And, mamma, do you 'speak he'll forgive me for sitting down in the meadows to watch Kate, when you told me I mustn't ever stay there?"

"Yes, my pet, the good Saviour will forgive you anything, if you are only sorry; but Rose doesn't want to go to heaven, and leave mother, does she?"

"I heard somebody say I must go, when I was asleep, mother; a beautiful lady, with oh! such white, shining wings, and she stretched out her arms to take me, but I didn't go. I woke up just to kiss you and sister once more. Please kiss me, Katie. 'Little Rose won't never be naughty any more up in heaven, and I'll grow up big, Katie, so I can play with you up there!'"

There were tears, sighs, a funeral, and a little coffin. The rosebud opened its petals on the bosom of Jesus. The little earth flower was "big enough for heaven!"

## The Boy on the Witness Stand.

BY ELLEN LOUISE CHANDLER.

Judge Grosh, of Pennsylvania, communicates the following to the *Ambassador*: After the plea "not guilty" was entered, and the jury was sworn or affirmed, a small, very intelligent looking boy was called to the witness stand. The defendant's attorney objected to his testifying on account of his age, &c. The attorney for the Commonwealth said the boy was unusually intelligent, and requested the court to examine his competency, and I proceeded to try mildly:

Judge—What is your name, my son?  
Boy—(Giving him a me very distinctly, which I do not now remember.)  
Judge—Where do you reside, my little man?  
Boy—In this city, sir.

Judge—Have you parent or parents alive and residing here?  
Boy—One only; my mother.  
Judge—Do you attend school, my son?  
Boy—Yes, sir.

Judge—I presume from your intelligence and praiseworthy conduct here that you will soon be allowed to attend the High School, and become a useful man, and (if necessary) assist your good mother.

This drew tears of pleasure to his eyes, and he replied that by the favor of the School Directors he had attended the High School for the last six months.

Judge—How old are you, good boy?  
Boy—My mother says that on to-morrow I will be thirteen years old.  
Judge—Are you here to give evidence to the Court and Jury in this case, (named)?  
Boy—Yes, sir, if required so to do.  
Judge—Do you know the solemnity of the obligations of a judicial oath, my son? Reflect before you answer.  
Boy—(Very modestly,) I think I do.  
Judge—What will be your punishment, my dear boy, if you swear falsely or speak a lie under an oath?  
Boy—I will be sent to the Penitentiary; (weeping) and thus break my dear mother's heart. (There were other eyes besides his in that house overflowing with tears.)

Defendant's Attorney (frowning)—Boy, don't you know that if you tell a lie on your oath, when you die you will be endlessly tortured in a fiery pool?  
Boy—That would be an additional inducement to speak the truth, and nothing but the truth; but that punishment can be avoided by a timely repentance; but repentance will avail nothing to keep me out of the penitentiary.

## The Workings of Mormonism.

BY ELLEN LOUISE CHANDLER.

An English clergyman, who left England to join the Mormons, returned to London in September last. He has published a volume giving his opinion of the saints found in the vicinity of the Great Salt Lake. We quote:

"One of the most repulsive features of Mormonism is the proxy system. This is so destructive to every good and honest feeling that many staunch Mormons reject it altogether. I heard one of the oldest disciples say, that nothing on earth would ever persuade him to believe in it, and that if he had a dog that believed in it, he would shoot him. Nor will any reader be surprised if he knows what it is. I will endeavor to explain it briefly. When a married man is called by conference to a foreign mission, he leaves home, of choosing some one to take the oversight of his cattle, goods, and whatever he may possess; to provide for and overlook the family, and to become pro-tempore husband of the wife."

The ostensible reason for this arrangement is to prevent the husband from "suffering any loss" during his missionary labors, since the greatness of his "future kingdom" depends upon the number of children he has here. To carry out this idea, the wife is handed over to a deputy husband, who maintains his position in the family till the husband returns. Base and immoral as this theory may be, it is strongly advocated by the leading men at Great Salt Lake. We again quote the returned clergyman:

"But there is something more fearful and paralyzing than all I have yet narrated. I mean the fearful sin of incest, which is so intimately and closely connected with polygamy. I could particularize instances where mother and daughter are married to the same man, and live with him as his wives; others where brother and sister are man and wife, and son. Brigham Young, speaking once in the Tabernacle, said that he hoped the day was not far distant when these principles would be more fully taught and acted upon, and that children would be brought up to regard each other as future partners; for that thus the family would become more compact."

As a case in point, we would mention that some ten months since there was a man at Liverpool, who held the office of counselor to the British Presidency, who, aided by the authorities there and the emigration fund persuaded a family—father, mother and three daughters, the youngest in her teens—to emigrate to Zion. They had been a highly respectable family, and their character was irreproachable. On arriving at their destination, the missionary demanded the three daughters in marriage, and the parents gave a most reluctant consent. This man of God (as he styled himself) was married by Brigham Young to three on the same day, and took them together, to his house, where he had a young wife already, and which house consisted of but one room for the accommodation of them all. In about a year one brought forth a daughter and another a son. This caused him great rejoicing, as he said the sons would in time marry the daughters, and thus insensibly become the foundation of his kingdom.

This statement reads like a fable, and yet there is no state of facts more easily proved. That such doctrines should exist in a Christian land, in the year of our Lord 1857, is one of those peculiar monstrosities which no amount of logic can account for. Mormonism is the great evil of the day. How it can be got rid of, is difficult to say. It may be put down by force, but it will not be put down by reason; for if men could reason, they would never become Mormons.

## Theory of the Bardell Murder.

BY ELLEN LOUISE CHANDLER.

District Attorney Hall, of New York, in his speech to the Jury, advanced the following theory of the Bardell murder. It looks to us quite reasonable:

"How carefully she prepares for the deed! Sending the cook to bed, making sure that Mr. Ullman would not be at home, discovering the hour at which the intended victim would return. The deed was done earlier than has been supposed. There was no clock in the house that night but Eckel's, which was upon her mantel piece, and which so far as is proved, was not going. Every one got the time from her. She was the clock. Judging from the time Snodgrass was out, and the way in which his time was afterward spent, from all the circumstances in the case, it was ten o'clock at the latest when they retired instead of eleven. That tallies with the hour at which the light and the odor were perceived by Doctor Parmley. How was the deed done? He had lit his gas, taken off his hat, and shoes, and seated himself at the desk. She who alone had admittance to the room enters, not in that dress as she insisted upon, but in her night-dress; she, perhaps trying round him the moment before, puts the handkerchief of which Doctor Francis speaks round his neck, presses the Adam's apple with the right hand and drives the knife into his right shoulder. He rises from his chair, struggles half-strangled for the door, and, with the devilish eyes upon him, with the carving-knife, used in every household, the fatal blows are given. He falls in the corner of the room, and she calmly lays him out as he was found."

In time of peace, the soldiers are dispersed over the whole empire, and, in addition to their pay, they are at liberty to cultivate the portions of land that are allotted to them. They are generally employed by the State in public works, or making roads and in repairing the banks of rivers. Their arms consist of sabres, swords, muskets, pikes, bows and arrows. The Russian warrior, Timbowski, who visited a large portion of the Chinese empire, states that the soldiers are clothed the same as the other inhabitants, with the exception of the tunic, which they wear over all, and which is always of the same color of the flag under which they serve—that is to say, yellow, red or blue, with or without a border. In times of war they receive helmets of iron, cuirasses that are quilted and wadded, and shields of bamboo wicker-work.

From the very commencement of a campaign the Chinese endeavor to get possession of the hostile commanders, either by force or stratagem. On Tse, the author of a treatise translated by Amiot, recommends that the drums and the cymbals should be confided to the most valiant warriors that can be found—"For the drums and cymbals," says he, "have to speak to the ears, the flags and the standards to the eyes, the recompenses and punishments to the hearts."

In the war which they have waged against their neighbors, or the nations that they have subjected, the Chinese have often been victorious, but their armies in spite of their great number of fighting men, are incapable of coping with European tactics.

## LAW OF OHIO.

BY AUTHORITY.

[No. 71.] AN ACT  
To amend section fourteen of an act entitled "an act providing for the Punishment of Crimes," passed March 7, 1835.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That section fourteen of an act entitled "an act providing for the punishment of crimes," passed March seventh, eighteen hundred and thirty five, be amended so as to read as follows: Section 14. That if any person shall, in the night season, wilfully, maliciously, and forcibly break and enter into any dwelling house, kitchen, smoke house, shop, office, store house, warehouse, malt house, still house, mill, pottery, factory, water craft, school house, church or meeting house, barn or stable, with intent to kill, rob, commit a rape, or with intent to steal property of any value, or to commit any deed prohibited by this act, or the act to which this is amended; every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of burglary, and upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary, and kept at hard labor not more than ten, nor less than one year.

Sec. 2. That the original section fourteen of the act aforesaid be and the same is hereby repealed.

N. H. VAN VORHES,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
THOMAS H. FORD,  
President of the Senate.  
Dated April 3d, 1857.

## [No. 72.] AN ACT

Further to preserve the purity of elections.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That every person who, on oath or affirmation, in or before any court within this State, or officer authorized to administer oaths, shall, to procure or acquire the right to vote therein, for himself or any other person, wilfully and corruptly depose, affirm or declare any matter to be fact, knowing the same to be false; or shall, in like manner, deny any matter to be fact, knowing the same to be true, every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary and kept at hard labor not more than five nor less than one year. This act shall apply to all proceedings to procure any paper or papers of naturalization, and every person who corruptly falsifies, deposes, affirms, or declares, on oath or affirmation, in the manner before stated, in any such proceedings, shall be held and taken to have been made to procure and acquire the right to vote within this State. This act to take effect from its passage.

N. H. VAN VORHES,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
THOMAS H. FORD,  
President of the Senate.  
April 3d, 1857.

## [No. 86.] AN ACT

To prevent the circulation of counterfeit bank notes.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That it shall be lawful for any cashier, president, or other officer of any bank, authorized by the laws of this State to issue notes for circulation, to cause any counterfeit note or notes, purporting to have been issued by such bank, to be presented to such person at the banking house of such bank for inspection, payment, or redemption, to write in a hole in the corner of such note or notes the word "Counterfeit," and sign his name under the same.

N. H. VAN VORHES,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
THOMAS H. FORD,  
President of the Senate.  
April 6, 1857.

## [No. 88.] AN ACT

For the relief of Partners and Joint Debtors.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That whenever any copartnership firm shall be dissolved, by mutual consent or otherwise, it shall and may be lawful for any one or more of the individuals who were or were entitled to such copartnership firm, to make a separate composition or compromise with any one or all of the creditors of such copartnership firm; and such composition or compromise shall be a full and effectual discharge to the debtor or debtors making the same, and to the creditors of such firm, of all and every liability to the creditor or creditors with whom the same is made or incurred by reason of his or their connection with such copartnership firm, according to the terms of such compromise.

Sec. 2. Every such debtor or debtors making such composition or compromise, may take from the creditor or creditors with whom he may make the same, a note or memorandum in writing, exonerating him or them from all and every individual liability incurred by reason of such connection with such copartnership firm; which note or memorandum may be given in evidence by such debtor or debtors in bar of every creditor's right of recovery against him or them; and if such liability shall be by judgment in any court of record in this State, then on a production to and filing with the clerk of such court, the said note or memorandum in writing, such clerk shall discharge such judgment of record so far as the said compromising debtor or debtors shall be concerned.

Sec. 3. Such compromise or composition with an individual member of a firm, shall not be construed as to discharge the other copartners, nor shall it impair the right of the creditor to proceed against the members of such copartnership firm as have not been discharged. And the member or members of such copartnership firm so proceeded against, shall be permitted to set off any demand against said creditor or creditors which could have been set off had such firm been brought against all the individuals composing such firm; nor shall such compromise or discharge of an individual of a firm prevent the other members of such firm from availing themselves of any defense that would have been available had not this act been passed, except that they shall not set up the discharge of one individual as a discharge of the other copartners, unless it shall appear that all were intended to be discharged: Provided, that the discharge of any such copartner shall be deemed a payment to the creditor equal to the proportionate interest of the partner discharged in the partnership concern.

Sec. 4. That such compromise or composition of an individual of a firm with a creditor of such firm, shall in no wise affect the right of the other copartners to set off the individual making such compromise, for his share of the debt of such copartnership firm; the law as if the law had not been passed.

Sec. 5. The total number of suicides in Philadelphia for the last two years, is ninety five—sixty nine men and twenty six women.

Sec. 6. Promises are thousands; deeds are fruits.

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## [No. 86.] AN ACT

To prevent the circulation of counterfeit bank notes.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That it shall be lawful for any cashier, president, or other officer of any bank, authorized by the laws of this State to issue notes for circulation, to cause any counterfeit note or notes, purporting to have been issued by such bank, to be presented to such person at the banking house of such bank for inspection, payment, or redemption, to write in a hole in the corner of such note or notes the word "Counterfeit," and sign his name under the same.

N. H. VAN VORHES,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
THOMAS H. FORD,  
President of the Senate.  
April 6, 1857.

## [No. 88.] AN ACT

For the relief of Partners and Joint Debtors.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That whenever any copartnership firm shall be dissolved, by mutual consent or otherwise, it shall and may be lawful for any one or more of the individuals who were or were entitled to such copartnership firm, to make a separate composition or compromise with any one or all of the creditors of such copartnership firm; and such composition or compromise shall be a full and effectual discharge to the debtor or debtors making the same, and to the creditors of such firm, of all and every liability to the creditor or creditors with whom the same is made or incurred by reason of his or their connection with such copartnership firm, according to the terms of such compromise.

Sec. 2. Every such debtor or debtors making such composition or compromise, may take from the creditor or creditors with whom he may make the same, a note or memorandum in writing, exonerating him or them from all and every individual liability incurred by reason of such connection with such copartnership firm; which note or memorandum may be given in evidence by such debtor or debtors in bar of every creditor's right of recovery against him or them; and if such liability shall be by judgment in any court of record in this State, then on a production to and filing with the clerk of such court, the said note or memorandum in writing, such clerk shall discharge such judgment of record so far as the said compromising debtor or debtors shall be concerned.

Sec. 3. Such compromise or composition with an individual member of a firm, shall not be construed as to discharge the other copartners, nor shall it impair the right of the creditor to proceed against the members of such copartnership firm as have not been discharged. And the member or members of such copartnership firm so proceeded against, shall be permitted to set off any demand against said creditor or creditors which could have been set off had such firm been brought against all the individuals composing such firm; nor shall such compromise or discharge of an individual of a firm prevent the other members of such firm from availing themselves of any defense that would have been available had not this act been passed, except that they shall not set up the discharge of one individual as a discharge of the other copartners, unless it shall appear that all were intended to be discharged: Provided, that the discharge of any such copartner shall be deemed a payment to the creditor equal to the proportionate interest of the partner discharged in the partnership concern.